

Message Text

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11

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 NSC-10 CU-04 IO-13 DRC-01

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R 240743Z SEP 73

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 769

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CH

SUBJ: PRC AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

REF: HONG KONG 9459

1. USLO NOTES WITH INTEREST REFTEL'S GENERALLY FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF AUTUMN CROP PROSPECTS IN NORTHEAST AND NORTH CHINA. NOTHING WE HAVE SEEN OR HEARD IN OUR TRAVELS (HOPEH, SHANSI, SHENSI AND LIAONING) WOULD CONTRADICT THIS ASSESSMENT. CROPS HAVE LOOKED REASONABLY GOOD TO OUR UNTRAINED EYES AND WE HAVE HEARD NONE OF THE PESSIMISTIC REMARKS THAT WERE COMMON AMONG CHINESE LAST SPRING WHEN THE WEATHER WAS DRY AND THE PROSPECTS FOR SUMMER HARVESTED GRAINS WERE NOT SO PROMISING.

2. FOR WHAT IT MAY BE WORTH, WE PASS ON ONE REPORT FROM A SOVIET COMMERCIAL OFFICER CONCERNING THE APPLE CROP IN CHINA'S NORTHEASE. JUST NOW, HE SAID, THE USSR SHOULD BE IMPORTING LARGE AMOUNTS OF APPLES FROM THE NORTHEAST, BUT CHINA'S DELIVERIES ARE LATE BY TWO
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WEEKS THIS YEAR. THE REASON, THE SOVIET SAID, IS THAT

HEAVY RAINS IN APPLE GROWING AREAS HAVE LENGTHENED THE
APPLE RIPENING SEASON. THE RESULTING DELAY WILL CREATE
PROBLEMS FOR THE RUSSIANS, HE SAID. THEIR RIVERS
ARE BEGINNING TO FREEZE UP AND TRANSPORT OF APPLES BECOMES
A PROBLEM WHEN THEY ARE NOT DELIVERED ON TIME.
BRUCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, APPLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PEKING01117
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730915/aaaaakrd.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AGR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HONG KONG 9459
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRC AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CH, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005